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DCI/ICS 85-6420

2 October 1985

MEMORANDUM FOR: Mr. Robert Gates
Chairman, National Intelligence Council

FROM:
Director, Intelligence Community Staff

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SUBJECT: DCI Strategic Planning Study

1. The DDCI recently approved a Terms of Reference (TOR) to govern the preparation of a Community Strategic Planning Study covering the time period up to 1995. A copy of the TOR is attached for your information. It is intended that the Plan will build on the 1985 Intelligence Capabilities Study, and will lead to a revised statement of DCI goals and objectives for the Community. Community principals are being asked to review and comment on the TOR. Assuming general consensus in the approach, we would expect to begin working sessions in early November.

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2. The first step will be a Community effort to draw up a list of significant challenges and issues. As noted in the TOR, that effort will be based on a View of the Future which will be supplied to participating agencies in advance of initial working meetings. The National Intelligence Council has prepared such views in support of past Community planning efforts and I should like to call on you to do so again.

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3. The TOR indicates the View of the Future should "...encompass the intelligence requirements and challenges expected to be the most significant..." The TOR also acknowledges the need to base the view on a geopolitical forecast, but stresses the requirement for identification of specific issues and complexities that will have meaning for Community planning actions. To meet the projected timetable, we shall need to send the View of the Future to participants by late October.

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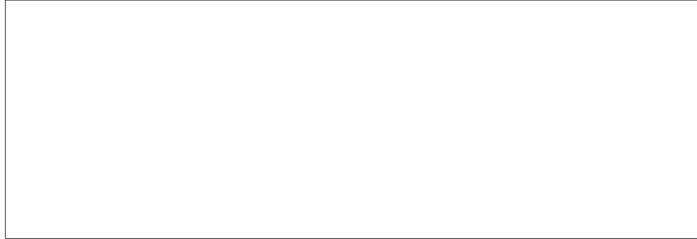
4. My Planning and Policy Staff has informally discussed this requirement with Dick Kerr and Hal Ford, and has received a positive indication that the NIC effort proposed can be accomplished in this time frame. Your past forecasts have been particularly helpful to the Community managers, and serve

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as a useful framework for strategic planning efforts such as this. I am very much appreciative of your assistance in this matter. Please refer any questions on the overall study to



Attachment:

Terms of Reference



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